

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Gary HABERLAND et al.

Serial No. 09/580,721

Filed: May 30, 2000

For: **TROCAR SYSTEM HAVING SHIELDED TROCAR**

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a full and complete response to the non-final Office Action dated September 11, 2002, setting a three-month shortened statutory time period for reply. A petition for a two-month extension of time along with the requisite fee is submitted herewith extending the time for response to February 11, 2003.

In view of the following amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections and allow all claims pending in the application.

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the application as follows.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please substitute sheet 2 of the drawings submitted herewith for sheet 2 of the drawings pending in the application. Changes made to the drawings are indicated in red ink.

IN THE SPECIFICATION: